# Sociological Analysis I – Autumn 2025 Masters in Social Science, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Starting date: September 9<sup>th</sup> 2025

Time: Tuesdays 10:00—13.00.

Place: Room 18.1.A04 Instructor: William Foley

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Assessment: Graded paper = 70%. Attendance and reading memos = 30%

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a particular way of thinking. That is, first to understand sociology as the study of how social phenomena arise from the interactions between people. And, second, to analyse this process through the lens of "social mechanisms". Mechanisms are general social processes relating to interaction between individuals, which manifest across a wide range of sociological phenomena.

This is not the only perspective in sociology, but it is a very fruitful one. We will also consider the perspective's limitations.

Across the twelve sessions of the course, we will examine six different "themes", each covering a mechanism or family of mechanisms:

- 1. Coordination
- 2. Trust and social capital
- 3. Social norms
- 4. Networks
- 5. Costly behaviour and group identity
- 6. Sorting and segregation

Each of the six themes (except the final one) will be covered by two sessions. In the first session of a given theme, we will study the social mechanism from a mainly theoretical perspective. In the second session, we will study social phenomena – from rebellions to religious action, feuds to foot-binding – and explore how these phenomena can be explained through our theoretical mechanisms.

#### Session structure

We have three hours per session. Generally, the sessions will be divided like so: 1) Student participation; 2) break; 3) lecture. Student participation will generally consist of discussion of readings, plus other activities. The break will last about 15 minutes, and parts 1) and 3) will be of roughly equal length.

**Important point**. The lecture – which comes at the end of the session – will discuss and prepare the readings and general themes for the *next session's student participation*. This way, students will have context for the texts that they will have to read. So, for example, the lecture part of Week 2 will discuss real-life coordination problems, focusing on studies of collective action

in Middle Eastern countries. The following week (Week 3), students will read some of these studies and discuss them in the student participation component of the next session.

### Readings

There are two types of readings:

- 1. Obligatory readings
- 2. Further readings

The text of the obligatory readings will be made available via Aula Global. Please contact the instructor if a text is partially or fully missing, or otherwise inaccessible. Students must have read the obligatory readings before class, and be ready to discuss them (see *Assessments* below).

Students are not required to reading the "Further readings", but they may find them useful when writing their paper (see *Assessments*) or in further exploring the theme at hand. Further readings will not necessarily be available on Aula Global, and may have to be acquired by the student themselves through the UC3M library or other means.

Note that, to manage workload, for some readings students are assigned only subsections of a chapter or article. The page numbers of subsections are indicated with a yellow highlight. For example:

Chwe M. 2001. *Rational Ritual: Culture, Coordination, and Common Knowledge*. Chapter 2: Applications (pp. 19-55).

This indicates that the student need not read all of Chapter 2, but just the subsection covered by pages 19-55. Of course, students are welcome to read further, if they wish.

### Assessment

The most important outcome is that students engage with the material and with each other. That means coming to class, participating in discussions, and doing the obligatory readings.

There are three criteria for assessment:

- 1. Attendance
- 2. Reading memos
- 3. Graded paper

The graded paper will comprise 70% of the final grade. Completing the attendance and reading memo requirements will constitute the other 30%.

#### Attendance:

More than two unjustified absences across the 12 sessions are sufficient basis to fail the course.

# Reading memos:

Eleven of the twelve sessions (weeks 2 through 12) involve obligatory reading assignments. Students are required to turn in eight ungraded memos on the *obligatory* readings for at least eight of those eleven sessions. The memos should be at least **250** words long. Each student can choose the eight sessions in which to turn in a reading memo. Memos must be submitted *before* the session in which the readings are to be discussed.

Students may discuss any aspect of the obligatory readings from any perspective. They may choose, *for example*, to discuss how they found the readings useful and persuasive – or unpersuasive and insufficient; or how the social phenomenon studied may be explained by other mechanisms, or how the mechanisms studied may be applied to explain other phenomena.

Students who might expect to get references from the instructor may choose to submit more than eight memos, and may choose to discuss more than just the obligatory readings – including, for example, the further readings provided in the syllabus, or any other text (academic or non-academic) which they find useful.

There are no obligatory readings for the first session in Week 1. Instead, there are "recommended readings" which students are strongly encouraged to read.

# Graded paper:

After the semester's end students will turn in a paper of between 2,000 and 5,000 words. In the paper, the students will pick a social phenomenon of their choosing – either from those covered in the course, or any other phenomenon. They will then take a social mechanism which has been studied in the course, and apply it to study that phenomenon. Students may, if they wish, even write on a mechanism-phenomenon pair that we studied in the course. For example, they may study female genital cutting from the perspective of social norms (see readings for week 7). However, to obtain a good grade, it would be expected that they take a different angle from that presented in the obligatory readings.

Papers will be judged primarily by the following criteria:

- 1. Creativity
- 2. Logical rigour
- 3. Clarity of presentation

Most important is creativity, then rigour, then clarity of presentation. Students may, if they wish, include statistical analyses of data but that is not required nor even necessarily recommended. Concision is recommended, and there is nothing wrong with writing a short paper as long as it is substantive.

The deadline for submission of the paper should be some time in January, but this will be confirmed later.

# Course schedule

Week 1: Introduction to the course. Lecture on the concept of social mechanisms, and on mechanisms of coordination

Recommended reading: [There are no obligatory readings for this session, but it is strongly recommended that students read the following three texts.]

- 1. Hedstrom P and Bearman P. 2009. "What is analytical sociology all about? An introductory essay." in *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*.
- 2. Gambetta 2015. "What makes people tip". In *Rationality, Democracy, and Justice: The Legacy of Jon Elster.*
- 3. Baldassari D. 2009. "Collective Action" in *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*.

# Further reading:

- 1. Hedstrom P and Udehn L. 2009. "Analytical sociology and theories of the middle range." in *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*.
- 2. Stinchcombe A. 1991 "On the Conditions of Fruitfulness of Theorizing about Mechanisms in Social Science," *Philosophy of the Social Sciences*, 21(3)
- 3. Elster J. 2007. Explaining Social Behavior.

Week 2: Discussion of mechanisms of coordination. Lecture on coordination phenomena. Obligatory reading:

- 1. Schelling T. 1978. *Micromotives and macrobehaviour*. Chapter 3: "Thermostats, lemons, and other families of models." (pp91—124, i.e. up to "The Social Contract")
- **2.** Chwe M. 2001. *Rational Ritual: Culture, Coordination, and Common Knowledge.* Chapter 1: Introduction
- 3. Chwe M. 2001. Rational Ritual: Culture, Coordination, and Common Knowledge. Chapter 2: Applications (pp. 19—55, i.e. up to "Strong and weak links")

# Further reading:

- 1. Schelling T. 1960. *The Strategy of Conflict* Chapter 3, subsection "Tacit coordination", pp71—76.
- **2.** Schelling T. 1978. *Micromotives and macrobehaviour*. Chapter 7: "Hockey helmets." (pp.211—244)
- 3. Mehta, Judith, Chris Starmer, and Robert Sugden. 1994. 'The Nature of Salience: An Experimental Investigation of Pure Coordination Games'. *The American Economic Review* 84, no. 3: 658–73.
- 4. Easley, David, and Jon Kleinberg. 2010 *Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning about a Highly Connected World.* pp.151 to 154

Week 3: Discussion of coordination phenomena. Lecture on social mechanisms of trust and social capital

Obligatory reading:

- 1. Patel, David Siddhartha. 2022 Order out of Chaos: Islam, Information, and the Rise and Fall of Social Orders in Iraq. Chapter 1: pp1—12
- 2. Patel, David Siddhartha. 2022 Order out of Chaos: Islam, Information, and the Rise and Fall of Social Orders in Iraq. Chapter 4.
- 3. Patel, David Siddhartha. 2013. 'Preference Falsification, Revolutionary Coordination, and The Tahrir Square Model'
- 4. Livny, Avital. 2020. Trust and the Islamic Advantage: Religious-Based Movements in Turkey and the Muslim World. Chapter 5.

# Further reading:

- 1. Kuran, Timur. 'Sparks and Prairie Fires: A Theory of Unanticipated Political Revolution'. *Public Choice* 61, no. 1 (1989): 41–74.
- 2. McPhail C and Wolstein RT. 1983. "Individual and Collective Behaviors Within Gatherings, Demonstrations, and Riots." *Annual Review of Sociology*. Vol. 9: pp. 579-600
- 3. Myers, D.J. 2000. "The Diffusion of Collective Violence", American Journal of Sociology, 106:173--208.
- 4. Brenan, Gerald. 1937. The Spanish Labyrinth: An Account of the Social and Political Background of the Spanish Civil War. Chapter 7 "The Anarchists"
- 5. Moore W. 1995. "Rational rebels: overcoming the free-rider problem." *Political research quarterly*, 48, 417-454.
- 6. Laitin D. 1994. "The Tower of Babel as a Coordination Game: Political Linguistics in Ghana, *American Political Science Review*, pp. 622-34
- 7. Corten, Rense, and Andrea Knecht. 2013. 'Alcohol Use among Adolescents as a Coordination Problem in a Dynamic Network'. *Rationality and Society* 25, no. 2

Week 4: Discussion of social mechanisms of trust and social capital. Lecture on phenomena of trust and social capital

#### Obligatory readings:

- 1. Granovetter, Mark S. 1973 'The Strength of Weak Ties'. *American Journal of Sociology* 78, no. 6: 1360–80.
- 2. Putnam, Robert D., Robert Leonardi, and Raffaella Y. Nonetti. 1993 *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton University Press, 1993. Chapter 5.
- 3. Putnam, Robert D., Robert Leonardi, and Raffaella Y. Nonetti. 1993 *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton University Press, 1993. Chapter 6.
- 4. Vriens, Eva, and Erik Van Ingen. 2018. 'Does the Rise of the Internet Bring Erosion of Strong Ties? Analyses of Social Media Use and Changes in Core Discussion Networks'. *New Media & Society* 20, no. 7: 2432–49.

# Further readings

- 1. Cook KS and Gerbasi A. 2009. "Trust" in *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*.
- 2. Skocpol T. 2003. Diminished Democracy: From Membership to Management in American Civic Life. University of Oklahoma Press.
- 3. Mair, Peter. 2013. Ruling the Void: The Hollowing of Western Democracy. Verso.
- 4. Greif A. 2006. "Family structure, institutions, and growth: the origins and implications of western corporations." *American economic review* 96.2: 308-312.
- 5. McPherson, J. Miller, Pamela A. Popielarz, and Sonja Drobnic. 1992. 'Social Networks and Organizational Dynamics'. *American Sociological Review* 57, no. 2 (1992): 153–70.
- 6. Aksoy, Ozan, and Dingeman Wiertz. 2024. 'The Impact of Religious Involvement on Trust, Volunteering, and Perceived Cooperativeness: Evidence from Two British Panels'. *European Sociological Review* 40, no. 1 (1 February 2024): 143–59.
- 7. Gereke, Johanna, Max Schaub, and Delia Baldassarri. 2018. 'Ethnic Diversity, Poverty and Social Trust in Germany: Evidence from a Behavioral Measure of Trust'. *PloS One* 13, no. 7 (2018): e0199834.

Week 5: Discussion of phenomena of social mechanisms of trust and social capital. Lecture on social norm mechanisms.

#### Obligatory readings:

- 1. Banfield, EC. 1958. *The Moral Basis of a Backward Society*. Free Press. **Chapter 1:** pp15-19
- 2. Banfield, EC. 1958. The Moral Basis of a Backward Society. Free Press. Chapter 5
- 3. Gambetta D. 1998 "Mafia: The Price of Distrust". in *Trust: Making and Breaking Cooperative Relations*. (edited by Diego Gambetta)
- 4. Bigoni, Maria, Stefania Bortolotti, Marco Casari, Diego Gambetta, and Francesca Pancotto. 2016. 'Amoral Familism, Social Capital, or Trust? The Behavioural Foundations of the Italian North–South Divide'. *The Economic Journal* 126, no. 594 (1 August 2016): 1318–41.

#### Further readings:

- 1. Hobsbawm, Eric. 2017. Primitive Rebels. Chapter 4: "The Mafia"
- 2. Dimico, Arcangelo, Alessia Isopi, and Ola Olsson. 2017 'Origins of the Sicilian Mafia: The Market for Lemons'. *The Journal of Economic History* 77, no. 4 (2017): 1083–1115.
- 3. Fidrmuc, Jan, and Klarita Gërxhani. 2008. 'Mind the Gap! Social Capital, East and West'. *Journal of Comparative Economics* 36, no. 2 (1 June 2008): 264–86.
- 4. Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon. 2011. "The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa." *American Economic Review*, 101(7):3221-52.

- 5. Apicella, Coren L., Frank W. Marlowe, James H. Fowler, and Nicholas A. Christakis. 2012. 'Social Networks and Cooperation in Hunter-Gatherers'. *Nature* 481, no. 7382 (2012): 497–501.
- Spierings, Niels. 2019. 'Social Trust in the Middle East and North Africa: The Context-Dependent Impact of Citizens' Socio-Economic and Religious Characteristics'. *European Sociological Review* 35, no. 6 (1 December 2019): 894–911.

# Week 6: Discussion of social norm mechanisms. Lecture on phenomena of social norms Obligatory readings:

- 1. Bicchieri, Cristina. 2017. Norms in the Wild: How to Diagnose, Measure, and Change Social Norms. Chapter 1
- 2. Bicchieri, Cristina. 2017. Norms in the Wild: How to Diagnose, Measure, and Change Social Norms. Chapter 3
- 3. Baldassarri, Delia. 2015. 'Cooperative Networks: Altruism, Group Solidarity, Reciprocity, and Sanctioning in Ugandan Producer Organizations'. *American Journal of Sociology* 121, no. 2 (September 2015): 355–95.
- 4. Henrich, Joseph, Robert Boyd, Samuel Bowles, Colin Camerer, Ernst Fehr, Herbert Gintis, and Richard McElreath. 2001 'In Search of Homo Economicus: Behavioral Experiments in 15 Small-Scale Societies'. *American Economic Review* 91, no. 2 (May 2001): 73–78.

# Further readings:

- 1. Álvarez-Benjumea, Amalia, and Fabian Winter. 2023. "Normative Change and Culture of Hate: An Experiment in Online Environments." European Sociological Review 34, no. 3: 223–37.
- 2. Bicchieri C. 2005 The Grammar of Society.
- 3. Olson M. (1965), *The logic of collective action*. Chapters 1 and 2
- 4. Oliver, Pamela E. 1993. 'Formal Models of Collective Action'. *Annual Review of Sociology* 19 (1993): 271–300.
- 5. Ostrom, Elinor. 2000. 'Collective Action and the Evolution of Social Norms'. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14, no. 3 (2000): 137–58.
- 6. Trivers, R. 1971. "The Evolution of Reciprocal Altruism." Quarterly Review of Biology. 46: 35-57
- 7. Kollock, Peter. 1998. 'Social Dilemmas: The Anatomy of Cooperation'. *Annual Review of Sociology* 24, no. Volume 24, 1998 (1 August 1998): 183–214.

# Week 7: Discussion of phenomena of social norm mechanisms. Lecture on network mechanisms.

#### Obligatory readings:

- 1. Andrighetto G and Vriens E. 2022 "A research agenda for the study of social norm change". *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences*. Vol. 380.
- 2. Mackie G. 1996. "Ending Foot-Binding and Infibulation: A Convention Account," *American Sociological Review*, vol. 61, no. 6, pp. 999-1017
- 3. Vogt, Sonja, Nadia Ahmed Mohmmed Zaid, Hilal El Fadil Ahmed, Ernst Fehr, and Charles Efferson. 2016. "Changing cultural attitudes towards female genital cutting." *Nature* 538, no. 7626: 506-509
- 4. Álvarez-Benjumea, Amalia, and Fabian Winter. 2020. 'The Breakdown of Antiracist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Hate Speech after Terrorist Attacks'. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117, no. 37 (15 September 2020): 22800–804.

# Further readings:

- 1. Vriens, Eva, Giulia Andrighetto, and Luca Tummolini. 'Risk, Sanctions and Norm Change: The Formation and Decay of Social Distancing Norms'. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 379, no. 1897 (11 March 2024).
- 2. Szekely, Aron, Francesca Lipari, Alberto Antonioni, Mario Paolucci, Angel Sánchez, Luca Tummolini, and Giulia Andrighetto. 'Evidence from a Long-Term Experiment That Collective Risks Change Social Norms and Promote Cooperation'. *Nature Communications* 12, no. 1 (2021): 5452.
- 3. Szekely, Aron, Luca Tummolini, Eva Vriens, and Giulia Andrighetto. 'Social Norm Strength and Norm Change'. *Current Opinion in Psychology* 64 (1 August 2025): 102040.
- 4. Centola, D., R. Willer, and M. Macy. 2005. "The Emperor's Dilemma: A Computational Model of Self-Enforcing Norms." American Journal of Sociology 110:1009–40.
- 5. Granovetter, M.S. (1978) 'Threshold Models of Collective Behavior', American Journal of Sociology, 83: 1420--1443.

# Week 8: Discussion of network mechanisms. Lecture on network phenomena. Obligatory readings:

- 1. Centola, Damon, and Michael Macy. 2007. 'Complex Contagions and the Weakness of Long Ties'. *American Journal of Sociology* 113, no. 3: pp702–10 (up to "Effects Of Long Ties on a Ring Lattice").
- 2. Chwe M. 2001. *Rational Ritual: Culture, Coordination, and Common Knowledge*. Chapter 2: Applications (pp. 55—73, from "Strong and weak links" to the end)
- 3. Salganik, Matthew J., and Duncan J. Watts. 2008. 'Leading the Herd Astray: An Experimental Study of Self-Fulfilling Prophecies in an Artificial Cultural Market'. *Social Psychology Quarterly* 71, no. 4 (1 December 2008): 338–55.
- 4. Van de Rijt, Arnout. 2019 'Self-Correcting Dynamics in Social Influence Processes'. *American Journal of Sociology* 124, no. 5 (March 2019): 1468–95.

5. Garip, Filiz, and Asad L. Asad. 'Network Effects in Mexico–U.S. Migration: Disentangling the Underlying Social Mechanisms'. 2016. *American Behavioral Scientist* 60, no. 10 (1 September 2016): 1168–93.

# Further readings:

- 1. Salganik, Matthew J., Peter Sheridan Dodds, and Duncan J. Watts. 2006. 'Experimental Study of Inequality and Unpredictability in an Artificial Cultural Market'. *Science* 311, no. 5762 (10 February 2006): 854–56.
- 2. Easley, David, and Jon Kleinberg. 2010 Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning about a Highly Connected World. Chapter 19 "Cascading Behavior in Networks"
- 3. Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Simon Chauchard. 2024. "I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" Social Corrections of Misinformation in India'. *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 29, no. 2 (1 April 2024): 394–416.
- 4. Centola, Damon. 2010. 'The Spread of Behavior in an Online Social Network Experiment'. *Science* 329, no. 5996 (3 September 2010): 1194–97.
- 5. Watts, Duncan J., and Steven H. Strogatz. 1998. 'Collective Dynamics of 'small-World' Networks.' *Nature* 393, no. 6684 (4 June 1998): 440.
- 6. Everton, Sean F., and Steven Pfaff. 2002. 'Historical and Comparative Research on Social Diffusion: Mechanisms, Methods, and Data'. *Social Science History* 46, no. 2 (2022): 431–72.
- 7. Stark, R. & Bainbridge, W. S. 1980 "Networks of faith: interpersonal bonds and recruitment to cults and sects". American Journal of Sociology. 85, 1376–1395
- 8. White, Douglas R., and Ulla Johansen. 2006 Network Analysis and Ethnographic Problems: Process Models of a Turkish Nomad Clan. Lexington Books.

Week 9: Discussion of network phenomena. Lecture on mechanisms of costly behaviour and group identity

# Obligatory reading:

- 1. Viterna, Jocelyn. 2013. Women in War: The Micro-Processes Of Mobilization In El Salvador. Oxford University Press. Chapter 4 "Recruiting a Guerilla Army"
- 2. Viterna, Jocelyn. 2013. Women in War: The Micro-Processes Of Mobilization In El Salvador. Oxford University Press. Chapter 4 "Joining the Guerillas"
- 3. Wurpts, Bernd, Katie E. Corcoran, and Steven Pfaff. 2018. 'The Diffusion of Protestantism in Northern Europe: Historical Embeddedness and Complex Contagions in the Adoption of the Reformation'. *Social Science History* 42, no. 2 (2018): 213–44.

# Further reading:

1. Becker, Sascha O., Yuan Hsiao, Steven Pfaff, and Jared Rubin. 2020. 'Multiplex Network Ties and the Spatial Diffusion of Radical Innovations: Martin Luther's Leadership in the Early Reformation'. *American Sociological Review* 85, no. 5 (1 October 2020): 857–94.

- 2. Kim, Hyojoung, and Steven Pfaff. 2012. 'Structure and Dynamics of Religious Insurgency: Students and the Spread of the Reformation'. *American Sociological Review* 77, no. 2 (April 2012): 188–215.
- 3. Watts, Joseph, Oliver Sheehan, Joseph Bulbulia, Russell D. Gray, and Quentin D. Atkinson. 2018. 'Christianity Spread Faster in Small, Politically Structured Societies'. *Nature Human Behaviour* 2, no. 8 (August 2018): 559–64.
- 4. Staniland, Paul. *Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse*. Cornell University Press, 2014.
- 5. Patel, David, Valerie Bunce, and Sharon Wolchik. 2014. 'Chapter 3. Diffusion and Demonstration'. In *The Arab Uprisings Explained*, 57–74. Columbia University Press.
- 6. Erikson, Emily. 2014. *Between Monopoly and Free Trade: The English East India Company, 1600–1757.* Princeton University Press.
- 7. Paluck, Elizabeth Levy, and Hana Shepherd. 2012. 'The Salience of Social Referents: A Field Experiment on Collective Norms and Harassment Behavior in a School Social Network.' *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 103, no. 6 (2012): 899.

Week 10: Discussion of mechanisms of costly behaviour and group identity. Lecture on phenomena of costly behaviour and group identity

# Obligatory reading:

- 1. Gould, Roger V. 20003. *Collision of Wills: How Ambiguity about Social Rank Breeds Conflict*. University of Chicago Press. **Chapter 1.**
- 2. Gould, Roger V. 20003. *Collision of Wills: How Ambiguity about Social Rank Breeds Conflict*. University of Chicago Press. **Chapter 3.**
- 3. Nalewajko, Kasia. 2025. 'Allies of the Weak: La Résistance and Jews in the Holocaust'. *American Political Science Review*, 6 March 2025, 1–21.

# Further reading:

- 1. Gellner, Ernest. 1998. 'Chapter 9: Trust, Cohesion, and the Social Order'. In *Trust: Making and Breaking Cooperative Relations*, edited by Diego Gambetta.
- 2. Vriens, Eva, Slinger Jansen, and Tine de Moor. 2021. 'Networks and New Mutualism: How Embeddedness Influences Commitment and Trust in Small Mutuals'. *Social Networks* 64 (January 2021): 30–42.
- 3. Balcells, Laia. 2010. 'Rivalry and Revenge: Violence against Civilians in Conventional Civil Wars'. *International Studies Quarterly* 54, no. 2 (1 June 2010): 291–313.
- 4. Balcells, Laia. 2011. 'Continuation of Politics by Two Means: Direct and Indirect Violence in Civil War'. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55, no. 3 (1 June 2011): 397–422.
- 5. Kaminski, Marek M. 2003. 'Games Prisoners Play: Allocation of Social Roles in a Total Institution'. *Rationality and Society* 15, no. 2 (May 2003): 188–217.

- 6. Eriksson, Kimmo, Pontus Strimling, Irina Vartanova, and Daniel Hauser. 2021. 'Perceptions of the Appropriate Response to Norm Violation in 57 Societies'. *Nature Communications* 12, no. 1 (March 2021): 1481.
- 7. Bruggeman, Jeroen, Don Weenink, and Bram Mak. 2025. 'Intergroup Violence in Bursts or Fizzles'. arXiv, 7 July 2025. https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2112.05088.

Week 11: Discussion of phenomena of costly behaviour and group identity. Lecture on sorting and segregation

# Obligatory reading:

- 1. Barfield, Thomas. 2010. *Afghanistan: A Cultural and Political History*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. **Chapter 1. "People and Places."**
- 2. Gopal, Anand. 2014. No Good Men Among the Living: America, the Taliban, and the War through Afghan Eyes. New York: Metropolitan Books. Chapter 4.
- 3. Grosjean, Pauline. 2014. "A History of Violence: The Culture of Honor and Homicide in the US South." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 12, no. 5 (October 2014): 1285–316.

# Further reading:

- 1. Turchin, Peter. 2003. *Historical Dynamics: Why States Rise and Fall*. Princeton University Press. **Chapter 3, especially section 3.2 (pp36—46)**
- 2. Ibn Khladun. 1377. Muqaddimah (or, Introduction). Book I, Chapters 2 and 3.
- 3. Cohen, Dov, Richard E. Nisbett, Brian F. Bowdle, and Norbert Schwarz. 1996. "Insult, Aggression, and the Southern Culture of Honor: An 'Experimental Ethnography." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 70, no. 5 (May 1996): 945–955.
- 4. Peregrine, Peter N. 2020. "Social Resilience to Climate Change during the Late Antique Little Ice Age: A Replication Study." *Weather, Climate, and Society* 12, no. 2 (April 2020): 237–247.
- 5. Gould, Roger V. 1995. *Insurgent Identities: Class, Community, and Protest in Paris from 1848 to the Commune*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 6. Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2015. "Is ISIS a Revolutionary Group?" *Perspectives on Politics* 13, no. 2 (June 2015): 547–554.
- 7. Speckhard, Anne, and Ahmet S. Ellenberg. 2020. *ISIS in Their Own Words: Recruitment and Defection*. Washington, D.C.: International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism.
- 8. Kalyvas, Stathis N., and Matthew A. Kocher. 2007. "How 'Free' is Free Riding in Civil Wars?: Violence, Insurgency, and the Collective Action Problem." *World Politics* 59, no. 2 (January 2007): 177–216.
- 9. Aksoy, Ozan, and Diego Gambetta. 2022. 'Commitment through Sacrifice: How Longer Ramadan Fasting Strengthens Religiosity and Political Islam'. *American Sociological Review* 87, no. 4 (1 August 2022): 555–83.

Week 12: Discussion of phenomena of sorting and segregation. Lecture on alternative perspectives.

# Obligatory reading:

- 1. Merton, Robert K. 1936. "The Unanticipated Consequences of Social Action." *American Sociological Review* 1, no. 6 (December 1936): 894–904.
- 2. Schelling, Thomas C. 1971. "Dynamic Models of Segregation." *Journal of Mathematical Sociology* 1, no. 2 (1971): 143–152.
- 3. Centola, Damon, and Arnout van de Rijt. 2015. 'Choosing Your Network: Social Preferences in an Online Health Community'. *Social Science & Medicine*, 125 (1 January 2015): 19–31.
- 4. Patel, David S. 2012. 'Concealing to Reveal: The Informational Role of Islamic Dress'. *Rationality and Society* 24, no. 3 (1 August 2012): 295–323.

#### Further reading:

- 1. Aksoy, Ozan, and Diego Gambetta. 2016. 'Behind the Veil: The Strategic Use of Religious Garb'. *European Sociological Review* 32, no. 6 (1 December 2016): 792–806.
- 2. Habyarimana, James, Macartan Humphreys, Daniel N. Posner, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. 2007. "Why Does Ethnic Diversity Undermine Public Goods Provision?" *American Political Science Review* 101, no. 4 (November 2007): 709–725.
- 3. Easley, David, and Jon Kleinberg. 2010 *Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning about a Highly Connected World.* **Chapter 3.**
- 4. Bruce E and Mare. 2009. "Segregation dynamics." in *The Oxford Handbook of Analytical Sociology*.
- 5. Granovetter, Mark, and Roland Soong. 1988. "Threshold Models of Diversity: Chinese Restaurants, Residential Segregation, and the Spiral of Silence." *Sociological Methodology* 18 (1988): 69–104.
- 6. Lubbers, Miranda J., José Luis Molina, and Christopher McCarty. 2007. 'Personal Networks and Ethnic Identifications: The Case of Migrants in Spain'. *International Sociology* 22, no. 6 (December 2007): 721–41.
- 7. Blau, Peter M. 1977. 'A Macrosociological Theory of Social Structure'. *American Journal of Sociology* 83, no. 1 (July 1977): 26–54.